

its burdens is the secretary. If the county secretary is familiar with the organization work of the State Association, he can become a powerful factor in creating additional and harmonious effort for the attainment of the policies to which the parent organization is pledged. At San Francisco, on Saturday morning, the State Association officers presented outlines of their work and problems. In the afternoon, round-table discussions were had of the work of the Association and its component societies. Many of these secretaries will be among the delegates at the next annual session, and this preliminary conference will make for better understanding of the numerous subjects which will be presented to the House of Delegates at Coronado.

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**California Medical Association Council Meeting of January 19.**—The Council put in an entire day discussing items on an extensive docket and even then found it difficult adequately to consider all the problems submitted. The complete minutes are printed in this issue.†

One of the important matters was the report of the Judicial Council of the American Medical Association on the appeal of two members of the Los Angeles County Medical Association who, some time ago, were expelled by that unit. An inspection of the blackface subheadings of the other items of business will reveal decisions taken on other problems facing the Association. Members are urged to read the minutes, recollecting that the references to subjects are much condensed when written up as minutes. Local councilors and the Association Secretary will be happy to give additional information to members who desire further knowledge on any topics.

#### STATE ASSOCIATION DELEGATES: HOW ONE LARGE SOCIETY SELECTS ITS DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

**House of Delegates the Association's Supreme Body: Its Important Work.**—The increasing importance of the medical-economic problems which, at each year's annual session come before the House of Delegates, makes it more than ever apparent that the election of delegates and alternates should not be a haphazard function, but rather a duty to be looked upon as one of the serious responsibilities of a component county society, and so to be construed by all members. The offices of delegates and alternates should not be regarded as positions of little moment, to be given as transient expressions of courtesy to one member this year, and to another the next. On the contrary, a county unit's members, prior to electing their delegates and alternates should ask themselves: Who, among our number, can best represent the points of view of our society on the business problems of the State Association and its component county units, and who, among us, may be of greatest coöperative service with other

delegates in acting on policies vital to the further development of both our Association and scientific and organized medicine?

In smaller societies the overemphasizing of personal regard or other affiliations may, at times, lead to danger and prove not always to result in the best of possible selections. In larger organizations with hundreds of members—many of whom, month in and month out, pay only nominal attention to the general problems of their organization—the task of selection is also no easy matter.

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**How the Los Angeles County Medical Association Has Solved This Problem.**—The Los Angeles County Medical Association has more than 2,200 members and is entitled, therefore, on the basis of one delegate for every fifty members, to forty-one delegates. Its task is to determine who shall be its forty-one delegates and alternates.

In 1933, the Board of Councilors of that society solved its problem, not through the appointment of a nominating committee, nor even by open-floor nominations, but by a plan of impersonal selection of nominees from a list of state and county officers, who, as such, are familiar with the problems of organized medicine; additional nominations from the floor also being in order. Ballots are previously prepared, containing the list of state and county officers, and with blanks for additional names. The election, therefore, takes but little time; the tellers collecting the ballots and submitting their report before the end of the meeting. The plan is mentioned for its obvious advantages, and because it may have a suggestive value to other county societies wishing to adopt, by resolution, a similar or modified plan as their own future method of procedure. The ballot sheets give the names of holdover delegates so that these are not voted upon. The full number of delegates to which the society is entitled, is voted for; the highest half so elected to act as delegates for two years, the succeeding half to act as alternates. Some of the county societies, even though they have elected their delegates for this year's session, may at this time wish to consider the plan, and then adopt it, or a modification, for use during the next and succeeding years.

From the introductory sheet of the recent Los Angeles ballot the following explanatory excerpts are taken:

Vote for forty-one (41), the twenty (20) highest to be declared elected delegates for 1936 and 1937, the next twenty-one (21) to be declared elected alternates for 1936 and 1937.

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The attached ballot, with nominees for delegates and alternates, was prepared in conformity with Minute No. 687, proceedings of the Board of Councilors, January 8, 1933, which provides that nominees be selected from the following groups:

1. All members of the Los Angeles County Medical Association who are members of any of the California Medical Association committees.
2. All members of the Board of Councilors not already elected to the House of Delegates.
3. All committee chairmen of the Los Angeles County Medical Association not already elected delegates.

† See page 120.

4. All alternates who have attended two State meetings.
5. All alternates who have attended one State meeting, and have given valid excuse to the secretary for their absence from the second meeting.

On the attached ballot the names of the above nominees are listed in alphabetical order for your convenience. (Additional nominations may be made from the floor.) After each name the following symbols are used to indicate from what list, in accordance with Minute No. 687, the nominee was selected.

C. M. A.—State Association Committee member.

Ch.—Chairman of a County Medical Association committee.

B. C.—Member of the Board of Councilors not now serving as delegate or alternate.

Alt.—Alternate who has attended two State meetings, or who has attended one State meeting and given valid excuse for not attending the second.

#### EXPULSION FROM MEMBERSHIP: RULING IN A RECENT CALIFORNIA CASE BY THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE A. M. A.

**Los Angeles County Medical Association's Errors in Technical Procedures Bring Reversal of Judgment.**—Some time ago, the Los Angeles County Medical Association, through its Board of Councilors, expelled from membership two of the members of that component county society. The members so expelled filed an appeal to the California Medical Association, and the Council of that Association, after several hearings in which legal proceedings were carefully observed, affirmed the action of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

The expelled members then appealed to the Judicial Council of the American Medical Association, and at the last annual session at Atlantic City, June 10-14, 1935, that body held a hearing on the appeal. The Judicial Council's decision was received by the California Medical Association two days before the California Medical Association Council meeting of January 19, 1936, held in San Francisco, and is given in full on page 120 of this issue.

The attention of all members is called thereto and the lesson to be taken to heart: the importance of being meticulously careful in all disciplinary procedures; since the nonobservance of by-laws of the State Association on method of procedure (with which the by-laws also of component county societies must conform), may lead to the reversal of judgments on technical grounds by the higher constituted bodies in organized medicine, as in the case at issue.

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**California Medical Association Is Studying a New Code of Disciplinary Procedure.**—The Council of the California Medical Association, through a special committee, is now studying a revised code of disciplinary procedure, which will be submitted to the House of Delegates at the Coronado annual session (May 25-28, 1936), in the belief that its adoption and use will reduce to a negligible minimum the possibilities of reversal on actions previously taken.

#### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH EXHIBITS AT THE 1936 SAN DIEGO FAIR: "C. M. A. DAY" ON MAY 26

**San Diego Reopens Its Fair on February 12.** San Diego's Fair of 1935, through its beautiful settings and splendid exhibits made for itself a warm place in the hearts and minds of all who were fortunate enough to visit it. As a consequence, the attractive buildings in Balboa Park, instead of being demolished will be utilized for continuing the Fair in 1936, the buildings with displays being opened to visitors on February 12.

One of the structures, excellently built and located, has been set aside as the Palace of Medical Science, and in it will be placed some of the best exhibits on public health, and on preventive and curative medicine that have been shown anywhere. Members of the Association who were not able to visit the San Diego Fair last year will find in the Fair of 1936 an additional reason for attending the California Medical Association annual session at San Diego, its second meeting day, (Tuesday, May 26), having been designated as "California Medical Association Day." An announcement concerning the public health and medical exhibits which has just come to hand, gives the following additional information:

Tuesday, May 26, has been designated as California Medical Association Day at the 1936 California Pacific International Exposition, San Diego, which opens February 12 and will continue to September 9.

Approximately 3,000 physicians and their families are expected to visit the world's fair in Balboa Park upon that occasion.

Focal point of the conclave will be the Palace of Medical Science, one of the principal exhibit palaces of the 1936 exposition, where extensive displays will be sponsored by the leading medical societies and manufacturers of pharmaceutical supplies.

A program appropriate to the day is being arranged by an exposition committee of the San Diego County Medical Society, with Dr. Lyell C. Kinney, 1831 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, acting as chairman. Direct coöperation is being lent by Dr. Ben F. Eager, Medico-Dental Building, San Diego, president, and Dr. W. C. Crabtree, Medico-Dental Building, San Diego, secretary of the San Diego County Medical Society.

A medical exhibit in the Palace of Medical Science will be sponsored by the San Diego County Medical Society, with the coöperation of the California Medical Association and the American Medical Association. Dr. W. H. Geistweit, Jr., of San Diego, has been named director of medical exhibits to arrange details of this exhibit.

The committee of the San Diego County Medical Society includes Doctors Kinney (chairman), J. F. Churchill, W. W. Crawford, T. O. Burger, M. C. Harding, Alex Lesem, B. Eager, and W. C. Crabtree.

The exposition committee of the California Medical Association is composed of Doctors C. G. Toland (chairman), E. M. Pallette, W. W. Roblee, J. C. Ruddock, C. O. Tanner, Robert A. Peers, Fred Clarke, and F. C. Warnshuis.

About 1,300 square feet of space will be occupied by the American Medical Association exhibit, which will be installed under direction of a representative sent to the world's fair from Chicago.

A large space will be occupied by the Chicago Roentgen Club, and x-ray films and pathological specimens will be exhibited by the Southern California Pathologists' Association.

The California State Board of Health, in coöperation with the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research of the University of California, will be represented by a joint display.